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AUTHOR:

SCOTT, J. WINFIELD

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**VIVISECTION AND THE
DRUG-DELUSION**

PLACE:

BOSTON

DATE:

[1893]

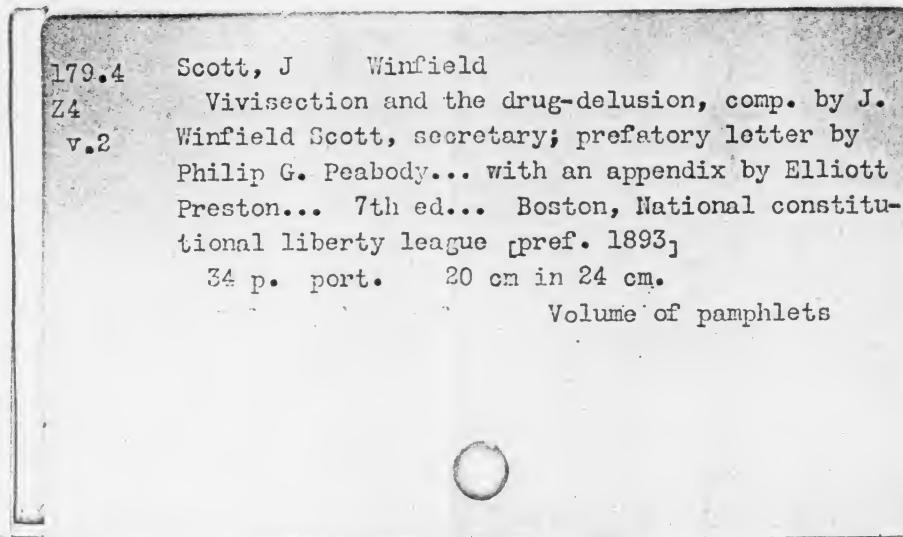
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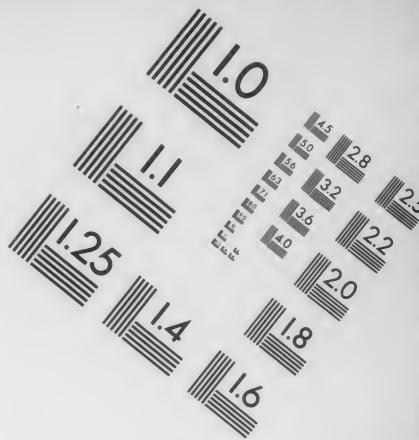
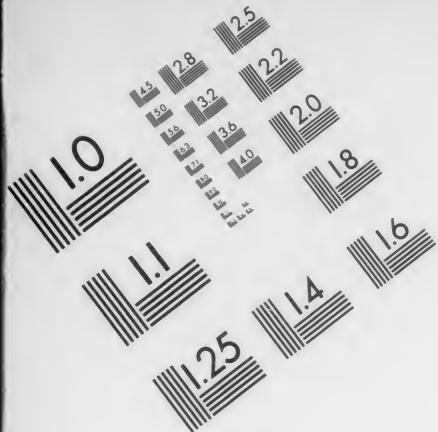


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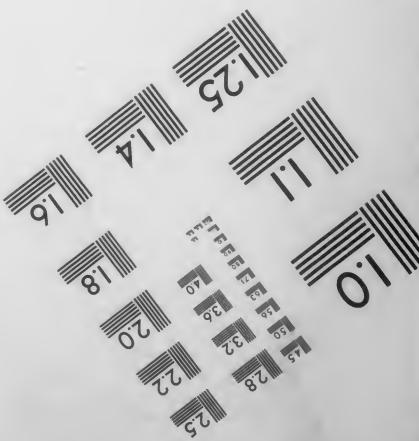
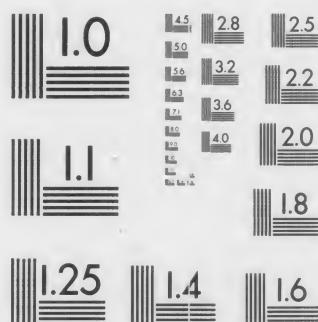
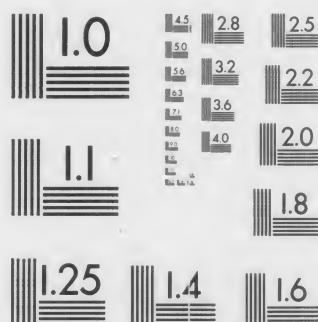
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VIVISECTION AND THE DRUG ^ DELUSION,

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PREFATORY LETTER

—BY—

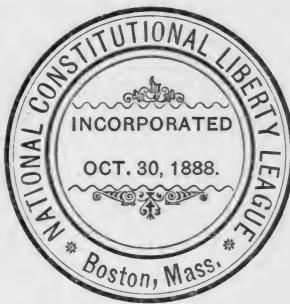
PHILIP G. PEABODY, BOSTON, MASS.

With an Appendix by Elliott Preston, Esq.

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SEVENTH EDITION—PRICE TEN CENTS.

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PUBLISHED BY
THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTIONAL LIBERTY LEAGUE,
BOSTON, MASS.

1892



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VIVISECTION AND THE DRUG & DELUSION,

COMPILED BY

J. WINFIELD SCOTT, Secretary.

PREFATORY LETTER

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BOSTON, MASS.

Owing to the many requests for the portrait of MR. PHILIP G. PEABODY, America's most influential and widely-known anti-vivisectionist, we have obtained his consent to permit us to insert, at considerable expense, an artistic photogravure frontispiece in this seventh (ten thousand) edition. The price remains ten cents per copy.



Philip G. Peabody



Philip G. Peabody

A TERRIBLE, BECAUSE TRUTHFUL, INDICTMENT.

OFFICE OF PHILIP G. PEABODY,

*Attorney and Counsellor-at-Law.*

BOSTON, MASS., Dec. 1, 1892.

MR. J. WINFIELD SCOTT,  
Boston, Mass.

DEAR SIR:—I have read with much interest your arraignment of the doctors in "The Drug Delusion," but you have omitted the greatest maintainable indictment against them. It is none the less a reproach that all do not actually commit the crime, for they aid and encourage it, and it is only possible because of their defence of it.

I refer to one of the most cowardly and hypocritical crimes of the present age, and a delusion as well as a crime — the practice of vivisection. Vivisection is the cutting up, burning and miscellaneous torturing of live animals. We are told by some doctors that this terrible practice has been the means of discovering various important facts, and that without it we should now be ignorant of many things that are of great value to the healing art. Unfortunately for the doctors, there are many of us who know something about vivisection, and we know that the claims so frequently set forth in behalf of vivisection are absolutely and unqualifiedly false.

Most persons who know a little of it (and only few know even a little) think that it is a very uncommon thing, confined in practice to a few leading men of science; but in fact, animals of a high order that have been and are being vivisected are numbered by millions. To illustrate: Inside of ten years Schiff, a noted man in this kind of business, vivisected fourteen thousand (14,000) dogs. It is estimated that he vivisected inside of this same brief time seventy thousand (70,000) animals of various kinds; and since then he was regularly torturing ten dogs each week. To prove one thing, over nine thousand (9000) dogs were vivisected, and the result was then in doubt.

A well-known veterinary surgeon named Murdock, in a work published by him, gives an account of a visit to a laboratory in France, as follows:

"Here lay six or seven living horses, fixed by every mechanical device by the head and feet to pillars, while the students were engaged in performing different operations. The sight was truly horrible! The operations had begun early in the forenoon, it now being three o'clock. . . . The poor wretches had ceased being able to make any violent struggles, but the deep heaving of the panting chest, and the horrid look of the eyes, when such were yet left in the head, the head itself being lashed to a pillar, was harrowing beyond endurance.

"The students had begun their day's work in the least vital parts of the animals. The trunks were there, but they had lost their tails, hoofs, ears, etc.; and the operators were now engaged in the more important operations, such as tying the arteries, trepanning the cranium, cutting down upon the

sensitive parts — as we are informed, on expressing our horror — that they might see the retraction of the muscles by pinching and irritating the various nerves.

"One animal had a side of the head, including the eye and ear, completely dissected, and other students were laying open and cauterizing the hock of the same animal."

Mr. Rogers adds to this:

"The number of horses operated on is six, twice a week; sixty-four operations are performed on each horse, and four or five generally die before half the operations are completed; and, as it takes two days to go through the list, the remaining one or two poor animals are left alive, half-mangled, until the next morning, only to be subjected to additional tortures.

"Among the operations which I remember, were firing in every part where it could or could not be required; operation for removing the lateral cartilages, which involves tearing off the quarters of the hoof with pincers; operation for stone, in which stone is put into the bladder and afterwards removed; operations for hernia, nicking, removal of the ears, eyes, etc.

"The effect of all this on the minds of the students may be inferred from the *sang froid* of a student who was firing a horse's nose, as he said, for pastime.

"A little bay mare, worn out in the service of man, one of eight, on a certain operation day, having unfortunately retained life throughout the fiendish ordeal, and looking like nothing ever made by the hand of God — with loins ripped open, skin torn and ploughed by red-hot irons, riddled by setons, tendons severed, hoofless, sightless, and defenceless, was exultingly reared (Baron Von Weber says, 'amid laughter') on her bleeding feet just when gasping for breath and dying, to show what *dexterity* had done in completing its work before death took place."

Is it surprising that the late Henry Bergh considered that this unfitted "the physician for the intimate and tender relations of friend and adviser," and made him "hence more to be dreaded than disease itself?"

Anæsthetics are practically never used; many animals, other than man, cannot be anæsthetized; dogs, especially, will usually die of the anæsthetic. Many vivisections are performed solely for the sake of causing pain; many last for weeks, some for six or seven months; of course anæsthetics are never used in any of these. A great English physician (Dr. Hoggan) once said, "Anæsthetics are the greatest of curses to vivisectible animals," in consequence of the delusions indulged in about them by humane persons.

Vivisection is a cowardly, unmanly crime. It has never yet given to the world any discovery of value; it never can, in millions of years, give to the world any discovery of a value at all commensurate with the harm it has done. This harm is not alone the torturing of animals, awful as that is; it is the making wicked and vicious the thousands of men, especially young men, who practice it, and to whom we must, in the presence of illness and death, look for aid and sympathy; also the turning aside of the minds from the legitimate direction of research — directions in which they might possibly find something of real value.

With best wishes for the success of your cause, I am,

Faithfully yours,

*Philip Peabody*

#### A WORD TO THE PUBLIC.

Profoundly impressed, after years of searching investigation, with the terrible truth that drugs have not only "multiplied diseases but increased their fatality," and killed more "than war, pestilence and famine combined," we feel forced to "cry aloud and spare not."

What we conceive to be duty to the dear dead, and to living loved ones, irresistibly impels us to undertake this sacrificial service, albeit we are proud to number among our fast friends many most excellent, but in our opinion misguided ladies and gentlemen, who "practice medicine," though most of them, we are equally pleased to declare, do not prescribe poisons.

The authorities and quotations given are not exceptional, but fairly representative of the conscientious convictions of the best brains. The cases cited are also quite common. Most every reader will recall similar ones within his own experience.

We have not attempted exhaustive quotations, because to do so would require volumes.

But we trust we have selected from the illimitable and accumulating mass of unquestionable authority sufficient evidence to establish the unscientific status of this pseudo science; and, may we not hope, awakened thousands to the monstrosity of the medical superstition and inspired in each an unalterable determination to devote time and talent to the abolition of the dreadful drug delusion.

Indeed, the demand for the seventh — 10,000 — edition, indicates that ours has not been "love's labor lost."

J. W. S.

Boston, Mass., New Year, 1893.

## WIT.

"Trust not the physician;  
His antidotes are poison, and he  
slays more than you rob."  
—Shakespeare—"Timon of Athens."

"Physicians, of all men, are most  
happy. Whatever good success so-  
ever they have the world proclaim-  
eth; and what faults they commit  
the earth covereth.

Francis Quarles.

"A physician of the schools! I  
can guess well enough how learn-  
edly he would prate and how little  
he could do."

—Edward Bulwer Lytton—"A  
Strange Story."

"But when the wit began to wheeze,  
And wine had warmed the politi-  
cian,  
Cured yesterday of my disease,  
I died last night of my physician."  
—Matthew Prior.

"So lived our sires ere doctors  
learned to kill,  
And multiplied with theirs the  
weekly bill.

—John Dryden.

"See our physician, like a sculler  
plies,  
The patient lingers and by inches  
dies;  
But two physicians like a pair of  
oars,  
Waft him more swiftly to the Sty-  
gian shores. —John Dunscomb.

"You tell your doctor that you're  
ill;  
And what does he but write a bill,  
Of which you cannot read one let-  
ter;  
The worse the scrawl, the dose the  
better;  
For if you knew but what you take,  
Even if you recover, he must break." —Matthew Prior.

"Recognized science! Recognized  
ignorance! The science of to-day is  
the ignorance of to-morrow! Every  
year some bold guess lights upon a  
truth to which but the year before  
the schoolmen of science were as  
blinded moles." —Edward Bulwer Lytton—"A  
Strange Story."

## WISDOM.

"In vain shalt thou use many medicines."—[Jer.  
xlvi., 11.

"Thou hast no healing medicines."—[Jer. xxx., 13.

"Ye are all physicians of no value."—[Job xiii., 4.

"Why shouldst thou die before thy time?"—[Eccl.  
vii., 17.

"Asa was diseased in his feet, until his disease was  
exceeding great; yet in his disease he sought not to the  
Lord, but to the physicians. And Asa slept with his  
fathers."—[II. Chron. xvi., 12, 13.

A woman "suffered many things of many physicians,  
and had spent all she had, and was nothing bettered, but  
rather grew worse."—[Mark v., 26.

## THE SCIENCE (?) OF MEDICINE.

"But what should we think of the colleges and the profession when its  
most distinguished members turn state's evidence and denounce it in the  
severest manner? What has been commonly said against the Liberal schools  
in medicine is mild as lemon juice compared to the *acqua fortis* of the criti-  
cisms on their own art in its highest rank."—Prof. Joseph Rodes Buchanan,  
M. D.

## Query Number One.

Is medicine a science?

Let medical savants, authorities and professors answer.  
Surely those who have grown gray in experience and  
untiring devotion thereto may be trusted to gently but  
justly criticise and fairly commend where they can.

Hear them, patiently, if you can.

John Mason Good, M. D., F. R. S., says:

"The science of medicine is a barbarous jargon."

Prof. Valentine Mott, the great surgeon, says:

"Of all sciences, medicine is the most uncertain."

Dr. Marshall Hall, F. R. S., says:

"Thousands are annually slaughtered in the quiet sick room."

Prof. S. M. Goss, of the Medical College, Louisville,  
Ky., says:

"Of the essence of disease very little is known. Indeed, nothing  
at all."

Sir Astley Cooper, the famous English surgeon, says:

"The science of medicine is founded on conjecture, and im-  
proved by murder."

Dr. Hufeland, a great German physician, says:

"That the greatest mortality of any of the professions is that  
of the doctor's themselves."

Prof. H. C. Wood, our distinguished American writer,  
asks:

"What has clinical therapeutics established permanently and  
indisputably? Scarcely anything."

Dr. Abercrombie, Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, of Edinburgh, says:

"Medicine has been called by philosophers the art of conjecturing, the science of guessing."

Dr. Benj. Rush says:

"The art of healing is like an unroofed temple — uncovered at the top and cracked at the foundation."

Dr. Talmage, F. R. C., says:

"I fearlessly assert that in most cases our patients would be safer without a physician than with one."

Sir William Knighton says:

"Medicine seems one of those ill-fated arts whose improvement bears no proportion to its antiquity."

Dr. Abernethy, of London, says:

"There has been a great increase of medical men of late, but upon my life, diseases have increased in proportion."

Dr. Wakely, in the London *Lancet*, says:

"A system of routine or empirical practice has grown up, vacillating, uncertain, and often pilotless, in the treatment of disease."

Prof. Henle, the great German pathologist and teacher, says:

"Medical Science, at all times, has been a medley of empirically acquired facts and theoretical observations, and so it is likely to remain."

Dr. Jacob Bigelow, formerly president of the Massachusetts Medical Society, says:

"The premature death of medical men brings with it the humiliating conclusion . . . that medicine is still an ineffectual speculation."

Dr. Samuel S. Wallian, of New York, says:

"The medical art has not reached that stage of exactness entitling it to be called medical science; it still lingers on the verge of its mythological age."

Prof. Alonzo Clark, of the New York College of Physicians and Surgeons, says:

"In their zeal to do good, physicians have done much harm. They have hurried thousands to the grave who would have recovered if left to nature."

Dr. Evans, Fellow of the Royal College, London, says:

"The popular medical system is a most uncertain and unsatisfactory system. It has neither philosophy nor common sense to commend it to confidence."

Dr. Marshall Hall, the distinguished English physiologist, says:

"Let us no longer wonder at the lamentable want of success which marks our practice, when there is scarcely a sound physiological principle among us."

Prof. Gregory, of the Edinburgh Medical College, to his medical class said:

"Gentlemen, ninety-nine out of every one hundred medical facts are medical lies, and medical doctrines are, for the most part, stark, staring nonsense."

Dr. Eliphalet Kimball, of New Hampshire, says:

"There is a doctorcraft as well as priestcraft. . . . Physicians have slain more than war. The public would be infinitely better off without professed physicians."

Dr. Mason Good says:

"My experience with *materia medica* has proved it the baseless fabric of a dream, its theory pernicious, and the way out of it the only interesting passage it contains."

Dr. Coggswell, Boston, says:

"It is my firm belief that the prevailing mode of practice is productive of vastly more evil than good, and were it absolutely abolished, mankind would be infinitely the gainer."

Prof. B. F. Parker, New York, says:

"Instead of investigating for themselves, medical men copy the errors of their predecessors, and have thus retarded the progress of medical science and perpetuated error."

Prof. Jamison, of Edinburgh, Scotland, says:

"Nine times out of ten our miscalled remedies are absolutely injurious to our patients, suffering from diseases of whose real character and real cause we are most culpably ignorant."

Sir John Forbes, Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, London, and physician to the Queen's household, says:

"No systematic or theoretical classification of diseases or therapeutic agents ever yet promulgated is true, or anything like truth, and none can be adopted as a safe guidance in practice."

Dr. Andrew Combe says:

"As often practiced by men of undoubted respectability, medicine is . . . so nearly allied to, if not identified with, quackery, that it would puzzle many a rational looker-on to tell which is the one and which is the other."

Dr. Alex. M. Ross, F. R. S. L., Eng., says:

"The medical practice of to-day has no more foundation in science, in philosophy, or common-sense, than it had one hundred years ago. It is based on conjecture and improved by sad blunders, often hidden by death."

Prof. Magendie, of Paris, says:

"Oh! you tell me doctors cure people. I grant you people are cured. But how are they cured? Gentlemen, nature does a great deal; imagination does a great deal. Doctors do . . . devilish little . . . when they don't do harm."

Dr. James Johnson, a highly educated physician, asks:

"Shall we ever have fixed laws? Shall we ever know, or must we ever be doomed to suspect or presume? Is 'perhaps' to be our qualifying word forever? Do we know, for example, in how many cases such a treatment fails for the one time it succeeds?"

Dr. R. C. Flower, the phenomenal Boston physician, says:

"Medicine is not a science. The best that can be said of medicine is that it is a system of experiments; no doctor of any standing will say it is a science. . . . The best brains of the allopathic school declare that medicine is only an experiment."

Sir William Hamilton says:

"The history of medicine, on the one hand, is nothing less than a history of variations, and on the other only a still more marvellous history of how every successive variation has by medical bodies been furiously denounced, and then bigotedly adopted."

Bichat, the great French pathologist, says:

"Medicine is an incoherent assemblage of incoherent ideas, and is, perhaps, of all the physiological sciences, that which best shows the caprice of the human mind. It is a shapeless assemblage of inaccurate ideas, of observations often puerile, and of formulæ as fantastically conceived as they are tediously arranged."

Dr. Gihon, medical director of the United States Navy, and president of the Naval Academy, says:

"That of one thousand one hundred and forty-two practising

graduates of regular medical colleges, seven hundred were too ignorant to pass the naval examining board. Many of these have doubtless learned something of the art they began to practice in the dark, yet most of them have learned to see as the blind see, and at what a fearful cost of human life!"

Dr. Thomas Inman, London, says:

"Men, like horses or tigers, monkeys and codfish, can do without doctors. . . . It is the business of such men, however, to magnify their office to the utmost. They get their money ostensibly by curing the sick, but it is clear that the shorter the illness, the fewer will be the fees, and the more protracted the attendance, the larger must be the 'honorarium.'"

Dr. Benj. Rush, University of Pennsylvania, says:

"I am incessantly led to make apology for the instability of the theories and practice of physic. Dissections daily convince us of our ignorance of disease, and cause us to blush at our prescriptions. What mischief have we not done under the belief of false facts and false theories? We have assisted in multiplying diseases; we have done more, we have increased their fatality."

Dr. Ramage, F. R. C. S., London, says:

"It cannot be denied that the present system of medicine is a burning reproach to its professors—if, indeed, a series of vague and uncertain incongruities deserves to be called by that name. How rarely do our medicines do good! How often do they make our patients really worse! I fearlessly assert that in most cases the sufferer would be safer without a physician than with one. I have seen enough of the mal-practice of my professional brethren to warrant the strong language I employ."

Prof. J. Rodes Buchanan, M. D., of Boston, medical editor and author, says:

"Of all known sciences none have been more unstable, confused and contradictory in doctrines than practical medicine. Not only is it changing from age to age, and even from year to year, but on the very same day, if we pass from nation to nation, from city to city, or from one medical school to another located in a neighboring street, we find the most contradictory doctrines taught with dogmatic confidence at the same hour, and the votaries of each expressing no little contempt for the others."

Prof. Magendie, the great Parisian physician, is reported to have addressed the students of his class in the allopathic college in that city, in the following language:

"Gentlemen: Medicine is a great humbug. I know it is called a science—science indeed! It is nothing like science. Doctors are mere empirics when they are not charlatans. We are as ig-

norant as men can be. Who knows anything in the world about medicine? Gentlemen, you have done me the honor to come here and attend my lectures, and I must tell you frankly now in the beginning, that I know nothing in the world about medicine, and I don't know anybody that does know anything about it. I repeat it, nobody knows anything about medicine. . . . I repeat it to you, there is no such thing as medical science."

An eminent doctor and professor, of the city of New York, writes:

"The critic who will take pains to examine the standard works of the most popular authors on theory and practice,—Good, Watson, Thatcher, Eberle, Elliotson, Dunglison, Dickson, and others, who have written recently—will find on almost every page the most contradictory theories supported by equal authority, and the most opposite practices recommended on equal testimony. Well might the celebrated Dr. Rush, of Philadelphia, after a life-long experience in witnessing the effects of drugs upon the human constitution, declare to his medical brethren, 'We have done little more than to multiply diseases and increase their fatality.'"

To deny or even doubt the deliberately expressed and unquestionably conscientious convictions of these honored professors and physicians, confesses our claim, disputes the highest medical authority of both continents, and declares the incompetency of all their pupils and disciples, whose more limited education, observation and experience make them so egotistical, bigoted and intolerant.

#### MODERN DELUSIONS.

The past fifteen years have been rife in medical delusions; each in its turn for the time being has served to addle the brains of the "profession," injure the health and deplete the pockets of credulous dupes. During the period mentioned we have had the "purging craze," the "sweating craze," the "vomiting craze," the "blue grass craze," the "Pasteur craze," the Brown Sequard "Elixir of Life craze," the "Inhalation craze," the "Cód Liver Oil craze," and last, but not least, the "Koch Tuberculosis craze." *O temporal! O mores!* what fools we are.

—Alexander M. Ross, M. D., F. R. S. L., Eng.

#### DIAGNOSIS—HAZARDOUS GUESSING.

##### Query Number Two.

Unerring diagnosis is indispensable to safe and satisfactory drugging. Correct diagnosis is the one and only key to present conditions and possible complications. Without it "every dose of medicine is a blind experiment on the vitality of the patient." Admitting for the moment the preposterous pretense that ponderous pills and poisons heal or help to heal, even then remedial benefits depend upon accurate diagnosis. Patients are drugged according to the diagnosis—or guess of the physician. An erroneous diagnosis is invariably followed by the wrong drug, inevitable damage and too often death.

Then how vitally important that professional diagnosis or guessing be scientifically accurate, when poisonous prescriptions and deadly drugs are daily employed!

Is there any dependence whatever to be placed in professional diagnosis? Let the following facts answer:

Dr. Holt, of Boston, speaking of the notorious Robinson arsenical poisoning cases, says:

"These cases were all treated by physicians of large practice, prominent in the profession, and yet certificates were given in five of the cases as follows: Pneumonia, typhoid fever, meningitis, bowel disease, and Bright's disease of the kidneys."

*The Chicago Tribune* reports at length a clever escape from Detroit jail, as follows:

"Henry Moyer, alias Charles Miller, was put in jail in Detroit for burglary. Two weeks ago he was apparently taken very sick and grew rapidly worse. Yesterday he was very low, and a consultation of doctors agreed that he had a cancer in the stomach, and recommended that he be removed to the witness room, where he could be better cared for. . . . Moyer, breaking off a part of the bedstead, dug his way through the two-foot wall."

The *New York Times*, quoting the *Ledger*, says:

"A well-known physician of this city, finding himself rather 'out of sorts,' determined to consult some of his medical brethren on the subject, for few physicians like to trust themselves. He accordingly called upon five eminent members of the faculty in succession, and it is a positive fact that each one of them gave a different opinion as to the nature of his disorder, and recommended a different mode of treatment. It is his own belief that they were all wrong."

Dr. E. B. Foote, of New York, in his *Health Monthly*, says:

"A case of drunkenness, ending in bilious attack, created a panic among the physicians of the Memphis Board of Health, who mistook it for a case of yellow fever, and in consequence they had to bear the jibes of the joking local press. About the same time the eminent scientist, Prof. Proctor, was taken sick in New York with severe symptoms of a malarial attack, complicated by chronic kidney disease, and the yellow fever panic led the eminent 'regulars' attending the patient to commit the same error in diagnosis, much to the discomfiture and danger of the patient."

Prof. Proctor died in consequence.

The *Medical Visitor* concludes an amusing colloquy between a scientific sprig and a suffering patient as follows:

"But, doctor," moaned the distressed lady, "are you sure you understand my case? I'm afraid"—  
"Perfectly madam, I assure you," quickly returned the doctor, blending his piety with an air of lofty amusement at her doubts; "why, only day before yesterday I had a young man with exactly the same trouble, and yesterday I had two such cases. It's a sort of epidemic around here. Oh, I know all about it, I assure you."

Shortly after he learned that the lady had been delivered of a fine, healthy boy a few minutes after his departure, his hated rival having been called in!!!

The *New York World* says:

"Carolina Soulier, a kitchen girl, employed at Norfolk, died from the effects of an operation. She had not been well, and Drs. Kelley and Hanson, of the Asylum Corps, decided that she was afflicted with an ovarian tumor, and that an operation was necessary to save her life. On the second day thereafter she gave birth to a child, and on the third she died. She was buried, and nothing was said about the matter. George Oliver, a colored cook at the hospital, was discharged recently, and he

told such stories of the girl's death that the coroner exhumed the body and held an inquest."

An acquaintance, married immediately after graduating from a "regular" Philadelphia Medical College, and shortly began treating his beloved bride for dropsy, which, despite his utmost scientific endeavors, grew worse and worse until—until the miraculous and unexpected advent of their first born.

A medical correspondent writing from Portland, Oregon, says:

A regular physician undertook to remove a tumor from a lady, and after baggling and cutting for a while discovered that it was a living child. The woman had previously told him she was pregnant, but he said he knew better, it was a fibrine tumor, and he insisted on removing it. As he is one of the shining lights of the profession here, and quite a celebrated gynecologist, they supposed he ought to know; her friends finally persuaded her to let him operate.

After he saw he had made a mistake he told the woman's husband that she could live but a few hours. But she did live and sued him for \$10,000 and got a judgment for \$5,000.

The *Northwest*, speaking of this very case, says:

"The jury in the case of Langford vs. Dr. Henry E. Jones, gave plaintiff a verdict for \$5000. Many thought the evidence justified a much larger verdict, and some have intimated that it should have been \$12,000 to \$15,000. If the testimony was as has been reported, the woman should have had a larger verdict, as it could not be otherwise than a shameful case of malpractice. There have been two instances in Portland of regular graduated quacks having treated a live fetus as a tumor, destroying the child and hopelessly ruining the mother. An old lady in Portland, mother of an ex-mayor of Salem, is compelled to hobble around all the rest of her life a cripple, owing to the malpractice of a graduated quack. One of the most prominent and influential men in Portland, a few years ago, had his hip fractured in Albina, and was attended by another of these graduates, who consulted with others of his brothers, and that man was left a cripple for life on account of 'unfortunate blunders,' as they may be pleased to term it. A man treated a short time since in one of our hospitals was so badly maltreated by graduated quacks that he is a cripple for life. These are but a few of the instances of malpractice in surgery; while if the voices from the graves in Lone Fir and River View be heard, there would arise a wail of those who have been sent to the other side by the scientific knowledge of *materia medica*, administered by quacks with dip-

lomas from medical colleges. Names can be furnished, if desired. These instances are not given for the purpose of advocating a want of scientific knowledge in the profession, but to prove that doctors are born and not made. Verily, there are many quacks with diplomas."

How many "thousands are (thus) annually slaughtered in the quiet sick room," as confessed by Dr. Marshall Hall, F. R. S., only He who numbers the hairs of our heads knows.

That many murdered victims are interred under fraudulent burial certificates, and numerous facts suppressed for the exceptional one which "will out," is certain.

The *National Liberator*, of Boston, Mass., says:

"Everybody has heard how a Springfield, Ill., tough escaped from jail and proper punishment by the small-pox ruse. He had applied Croton oil and alarmed the prison keeper and city physician, who sent for the then and now head of the Ill. State Board of Health, J. H. Rauch, M. D., of Chicago, to make a 'sure pop,' scientific diagnosis. This great scientific doctor, stickler for medical monopoly and persecutor of prominent unprofessional (advertising) physicians like Drs. McCoy and Waterman, of Chicago, pronounced it a genuine case of small-pox, and the criminal was hustled off to the pest house, from which he hastily hied himself, for he was as hearty as the deceived doctors.

The *Boston Globe* editorially says:

#### "DOUBTFUL DOCTORING.

"A man in perfect health—indeed, a perfect athlete in his physical make-up—told the same story and described the same non-existing symptoms to each of ten well known physicians. Result: *Ten different diagnosis, and ten different prescriptions.*

"Obviously, at least nine of these learned gentlemen must have been mistaken. Probably all were. Certainly not one had the skill to discover that nothing ailed the athletic reporter.

"So we have the comforting assurance that the doctors, nine times out of ten, doctor their patients for the wrong complaint."

Leading papers of Cincinnati, Chicago, and other cities have tried like experiments with similar results in every instance.

The Chicago *Tribune*, under the head of "*The McAlisterville Hallucination*," says:

"At the time the doctors were making their *learned diagnosis* and suggesting various methods of treatment, the *Tribune* rec-

ommended the vigorous application of birch, and was taken to task by some of its contemporaries and by numerous correspondents for its cruelty and hard-heartedness. The ridiculous dénouement shows the *Tribune* was right in its diagnosis and prescription."

Here again a non-professional diagnosis, even at long range, was more reliable than that of the self-constituted "regular" and self-styled "scientific doctors."

"The alleged disease appeared to be contagious, and finally spread so rapidly that it was made the subject of official investigation. Not only the physician of the institution, but the wisest and most experienced physicians of the State, as well as numerous insanity experts, visited the school and diagnosed the cases. They did not all agree (*doctors never do*), but they presented long and learned reports dealing in metaphysical abstraction, cumbered up with words of literary gorgeousness, and discussing the relations between mind and body with a degree of abstruseness that was simply despair to the lay reader. The investigation was taken up next by the Legislature, and has gone so far that it now is gravely proposed to abolish the school altogether and scatter the inmates among other institutions, though many of the State's Solons have opposed the proposition upon the ground that it might tend to scatter instead of extirpating the disease, and that the diffusion of the germs might produce it again wherever they were sent, and thus spread it all over the State.

"Pending the quarrels of the doctors, each with the other, and any official decision on the part of the State officials, the disease suddenly disappeared, and the twenty or thirty alleged victims of hallucination or hysteria unanimously appeared clothed in their right minds and in perfectly normal conditions. The inspector of the school thereupon proceeded to examine the boys themselves, and was astounded at the discovery that they had been shamming insanity for no other reason than to have some fun and save the necessity of going after their meals. One of their number tried it first and succeeded so well that twenty or thirty more thought it would be a lark to play crazy. How well they succeeded is shown by the perplexity they have caused in the medical profession, and the hubbub they have kicked up in the Legislature."

It is significant that it required a non-professional inspector to discover the imposition.

The *N. Y. Herald* says:

"A girl of 20, on the New York *World's* staff of reporters, Nellie Bly, feigned insanity. Three physicians—the city's insanity experts—pronounced her insane, and had her committed

to Blackwell's Island Asylum. The police, the court, the nurses and physicians at the famous Bellevue Hospital were all successfully duped by a mere girl, totally uninformed as to the peculiarities of demented persons.

"Careless management, trifling physicians whose conduct with female attendants was suggestive of immorality, coarse, brutal and profane nurses, the half-fed and not decently clothed inmates, subjected to cruel taunts and more cruel punishment, all these characterize the New York City Asylum for the insane. Were the pitiable unfortunates the most abandoned criminals, their treatment could not be worse than in instances that came under Nellie Bly's observation.

"But the feature of Nellie Bly's revelation which is most striking is the fact that men and women are admitted to insane institutions who are mentally as sound as the pretentious medical experts who write out their commitments. Here was a young woman of unusual mental gifts pronounced demented. From the hour she entered the asylum she asserted her sanity, and demanded an examination from the physicians in charge. Her assertions and demands were met with cool indifference. The questions put to her were in a cold, unsympathetic, contemptuous manner, and she was held, as a matter of course, no opportunity being allowed to free her mental soundness. And this same girl avers that others are held in the insane wards, and gives their names, who are every whit as sane as herself. No doubt there are many like cases in the asylums of other States."

#### MEDICAL PRACTICE.

"No other department of erudition remains enshrouded in such mystery as is confessed through medical literature to exist in that of medical science. The present plan of medical practice is based on the imaginary principle called active medical property. . . . There is no 'active medical principle.' Such doctrine is based on the erroneous interpretation of appearances, and nearest of kin to that delusion which presaged the doctrine that the sun revolved around the earth."—*W. R. Dunham, M. D., in Higher Medical Culture.*"

#### Query Number Three.

Medicine means something that heals or cures, and practice means to try repeatedly, hence medical practice is literal curative experiments, occasionally with medicines, but generally with poisons. The gifted young lady practices music until she becomes proficient, then she *performs*. Medical men are rarely gifted, seldom become proficient and never perform cures. Indeed, it is most singular and significant that they do not claim to perform cures, but only to "practice medicine."

Physicians prescribe many hundreds of poisons. Now poisons generally make well people sick. Do they also make sick people well? We doubt it, and here are a few of our reasons:

Prof. St. John, M. D., says:

"All medicines are poisons."

Dr. Baillie, of England, says:

"I have no faith whatever in medicine."

Prof. Alonzo Clark, of the New York College of Physicians and Surgeons, says:

"Every dose of medicine diminishes the patient's vitality."

Prof. C. A. Gilman, New York Medical College, says:

"Four grains of calomel will sometimes KILL AN ADULT."

Prof. Alonzo Clark, M. D., New York Medical College, says:

"From thirty to sixty grains of calomel have been given very young children for croup."

Prof. Davis says:

"Four hundred and eighty grains of calomel have been given at a single dose of cholera."

Prof. Parker, of New York, says:

"Hygiene is of far more value in the treatment of disease than drugs."

Bostwick's History of Medicine says:

"Every dose of medicine is a blind experiment on the vitality of the patient."

Prof. Chas. D. Meigs, Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, says:

"All our cogitations respecting the modus operandi of medicines are purely empirical."

Sir John Forbes, M. D., F. R. S., physician to Queen Victoria, says:

"Some patients get well with the aid of medicines, some without it, and still more in spite of it."

Prof. Barker, New York Medical College, says:

"The drugs which are administered for scarlet fever kill far more patients than that disease does."

Prof. E. R. Peaslee, M. D., of the New York Medical College, says:

"The administration of powerful medicine is the most fruitful cause of derangement of the digestion."

Prof. Horace Green, of New York Medical College, says:

"The medical confidence you have in medicine will be dissipated by experience in treating disease."

Prof. E. H. Davis, of the New York Medical College, says:

"The 'vital effects' of medicine are very little understood. It is a term employed to cover ignorance."

Prof. Clark, N. Y., says:

"All our curative agents are poisons, and, as a consequence, every dose diminishes the patient's vitality."

Prof. Joseph M. Smith, M. D., New York College of Physicians and Surgeons, says:

"All medicines which enter the circulation poison the blood in the same manner as do the poisons that produce disease."

Dr. Lugol, of Paris, says:

"We are following an erroneous course in our investigations, and must resort to new modes if we would be more successful."

Dr. Eliphalet Kimball, of New Hampshire, says:

"As instruments of death in physicians' hands, calomel, bleeding and other medicines have done more than powder and ball."

Prof. A. H. Stevens, M. D., New York College of Physicians and Surgeons, says:

"The older physicians grow the more skeptical they become of the virtues of medicine, and the more they are disposed to trust to the powers of nature."

Prof. J. W. Carson says:

"We do not know whether our patients recover because we give medicine, or because nature cures them. Perhaps bread pills would cure as many as medicine."

Sir John Forbes, says:

"With the exception of a very few, and these comparatively insignificant diseases, the medical art does not possess the power of curing disease in a direct and positive manner."

John Mason Good, M. D., F. R. S., says:

"The effects of medicine on the human system are, in the highest degree, uncertain, except, indeed, that they have destroyed more lives than war, pestilence and famine combined."

The poet, Oliver Wendell Holmes, declared:

"Mankind had been drugged to death, and the world would be better off if the contents of every apothecary shop were emptied into the sea, though the consequences to the fishes would be lamentable."

Dr. Eliphalet Kimball says:

"It is shocking to think how many soldiers in the late war were killed, or their constitutions ruined, by army doctors. The irrational use of medicine by physicians sweeps off the people as fast as war could."

Dr. McIntosh, of Edinburgh, says:

"No better evidence can be offered of ignorance of the profession generally as to the nature and seat of any disease, than the number and variety of remedies that have been confidently recommended for its cure."

Prof. Parker, of New York, says:

"It must be confessed that the administration of remedies is conducted more in an empirical than in a rational manner. As we place more confidence in nature, and less in the preparations of the apothecary, mortality diminishes."

Dr. Trall says:

"What do persons who call themselves reasonable do in the midst of a hundred doctors, with a hundred different medicines, each affirming that his own is good and that all the rest are bad? Do they reject them all? No; they swallow them all."

Dr. James Johnson, F. R. S., editor of the *Chirurgical Review*, says:

"I declare, as my conscientious convictions, founded on long experience and reflection, that if there was not a single physician, surgeon, man-midwife, chemist, apothecary, druggist nor drug on the face of the earth, there would be less sickness and less mortality than now prevails."

Dr. R. Noyes says:

"A drug or substance can never be called a healer of disease; there is no reason, justice or necessity for the use of drugs in diseases. I believe that this profession, this art, this misnamed knowledge of medicine, is none other than a practice of funda-

mentally fallacious principles, impotent of good, morally wrong and bodily hurtful."

Dr. Samuel S. Wallian, of New York, says:

"Beyond the supply of direct or indirect nutrition, human skill is powerless to add a single nerve-throb or heart-beat to the vital stock of any organism. . . . There is no substance in the universe, call it what you will,—medicine, mystery or moonshine, or—which can be made to add a single moment to the life, or a single jot or tittle to the strength, of any organized being."

Dr. Broady, of Chicago, in his "Medical Practice Without Poison," says:

"The single, uncombined, different and confessed poisons in daily use by the dominant school of medicine numbers one hundred and seven. Among these are phosphorus, strichnine, mercury, opium and arsenic. The various combinations of these five violent poisons number, respectively, twenty-seven combinations of phosphorus, five of strichnia, forty-seven of mercury, twenty-five of opium and fourteen of arsenic. The poisons that are more or less often used number many hundreds."

Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, says:

"The disgrace of medicine has been that colossal system of self-deception, in obedience to which mines have been emptied of their cankering minerals, the entrails of animals taxed for their impurities, the poison bags of reptiles drained of their venom, and all the inconceivable abominations thus obtained thrust down the throats of human beings suffering from some fault of organization, nourishment, or vital stimulation."

The distinguished Magendie, of Paris, says:

"I hesitate not to declare, no matter how sorely I shall wound our vanity, that so gross is our ignorance of the real nature of the physiological disorders, called disease, that it would perhaps be better to do nothing and resign the complaint we are called upon to treat to the resources of nature than to act, as we are frequently called upon to do, without knowing the why and the wherefore of our conduct, and its obvious risk of hastening the end of the patient. Let me tell you, gentlemen, what I did when I was the head physician at Hotel Dieu. Some three or four thousand patients passed through my hands every year. I divided the patients into two classes: with one I followed the dispensatory, and gave them the usual medicines without the least idea why or whereof; to the other I gave bread pills and colored water, without, of course, letting them know anything about it . . . and occasionally, gentlemen, I would create a third division, to whom I gave nothing whatever. These last would fret a good deal, they would feel they were neglected (sick people always feel

they are neglected unless they are well drugged) . . . (*les imbeciles!*) and they would irritate themselves until they got really sick, but nature invariably came to the rescue, and all the persons in the third class got well. There was a little mortality among those who received but bread pills and colored water, and the mortality was greatest among those who were carefully drugged according to dispensatory."

#### HOPE.

##### Query Number Four.

If, as the preceding pages appear to conclusively prove, medicine is not a science, professional diagnosis is very poor guessing and poisons are not medicine, then where shall the

##### DISCOURAGED, DESPAIRING AND DYING

flee for relief? Just where the greatest teacher of the greatest and oldest allopathic college in America, Prof. Benj. Rush, sent his medical students for their "most useful remedies," of course. He says:

"Remember how many of our most useful remedies have been discovered by quacks. Do not be afraid, therefore, of conversing with them and of profiting by their ignorance and temerity. Medicine has its pharisees as well as religion. But the spirit of this sect is as unfriendly to the advancement of medicine as it is to Christian charity. In the pursuit of medical knowledge let me advise you to converse with nurses and old women. They will often suggest facts in the history and cure of disease which have escaped the most sagacious observers of nature. By so doing you may discover laws of the animal economy which have no place in our system of nosology, or in our theories of physic. The practice of physic hath been more improved by the casual experiments of illiterate nations and the rash ones of vagabond quacks, than by all the once celebrated professors of it and the theoretic teachers in the several schools of Europe, very few of whom have furnished us with one new medicine, or have taught us better to use our old ones, or have in any one instance at all improved the art of curing diseases."

Dr. D. H. Tuke quotes Burton's pithy observation:

"That an empiric or a silly chirurgeon does more strange cures than a rational physician, and says Nymannas gives the reason, because the patient puts his confidence in him, which Avicenna prefers before art, precepts, and all remedies whatever. 'Tis

opinion alone,' says Cardin, 'that makes or mars physicians, and he doth the best cures, according to Hippocrates, in whom we trust.'"

Dr. A. O'Leary, Jefferson Medical College, of Philadelphia, says:

"The best things in the healing art have been done by those who never had a diploma—the first Cæsarian section, lithotomy, the use of cinchona, of ether as an anæsthetic, the treatment of the air passages by inhalation, the water cure and medicated baths, electricity as a healing agent, and magnetism, faith cure, mind cure, etc."

Prof. Waterhouse, writing to the learned Dr. Mitchell, of New York, says:

"I am, indeed, so disgusted with learned quackery that I take some interest in honest, humane, and strong-minded empiricism; for it has done more for our art, in all ages and all countries, than all the universities since the time of Charlemagne."

Dr. Adam Smith says:

"After denouncing Paracelsus as a quack, the regular medical profession stole his 'quack-silver'—mercury; after calling Jenner an imposter it adopted his discovery of vaccination; after dubbing Harvey a humbug it was forced to swallow his theory of the circulation of the blood."

Prof. J. Rodes Buchanan, Boston, says:

"Mozart, Hoffman, Ole Bull, and Blind Tom were born with a mastery of music, as Zerah Colburn with a mastery of mathematics, as others are born with a mastery of the mystery of life and disease, like Greatrakes, Newton, Hutton, Sweet, and Stephens, born doctors, and a score of similar renown."

Prof. Charles W. Emerson, M. D., the well known president of the Munroe Conservatory of Oratory, of Boston, says:

"The progress in therapeutics has and still continues to come from the unlearned. Common people give us our improvements and the school men spend their time in giving Greek and Latin names to these improvements, and building metaphysical theories concerning them."

## SHALL VIVISECTION END?

What Col. Ingersol Called "The Hell of Science."

"One Story is Good till Another is Told."

"To Be, or Not to Be? That's the Question!"

What Is It, Really?—What Has It Done to Ameliorate Human Ills?

"THE REVERSE OF THE MEDAL."

NOTE.—Vivisection is the dissecting of living animals, and generally (particularly in the case of horses, dogs, cats, rabbits, guinea-pigs, etc.,) entirely without the use of anæsthetics or substances which might lessen the animals' agony.

I was amazed at reading a recent lengthy article on this subject in a prominent American newspaper,—amazed at its most extraordinary misapprehension of well-attested facts, and at its unqualified laudation of a practice regarding the utility of which its most eminent professors have little to commend, echoing the sentiment of the greatest among them, the dying Claude Bernard, who said he passed away with empty hands. Majendie, too, "The Prince of Torturers," declined to be attended, when ill, by a practitioner who had drawn his conclusions from a science so *prolific in errors* as Vivisection.

Of all "close" corporations, the medical profession stands indubitably in the van. For a man without the magic "M.D." tacked to his name to pry into "Bluebeard's Chamber"—which Baron Von Weber has well termed "The Torture Chamber of Science," is, in their eyes, sacrilege. Hence it is that the lay public knows little or nothing of Vivisection, the king of all cruelties,—a form of torture as compared to which the ordinary beating, starving and abusing of animals by brutal teamsters and others is as "the relative 0."

I am no hot-headed enthusiast, no proclaimer of sensational alarms; but for twenty years—years full of painstaking and careful investigation—I have dealt with this terrible subject in all its revolting phases, and today I do not hesitate to aver that Vivisection is not only the wickedest (because most cruel) of all alleged paths to knowledge, but that, so far from advancing the sciences either of therapeutics or of surgery, it has led to a mul-

titude of false deductions, entangled its advocates in an inextricable web of contradictions, and blocked the true road to knowledge by a conglomeration of isolated and abstract facts in the domain of physiology—confusing, misleading and frequently contradictory. Had this false path been, twenty-five years ago, peremptorily closed by the voice of outraged humanity, as well as of common sense, who shall say what *really* great discoveries might, ere this, have been given to the world?

Never has science been made more truly ridiculous than by the extravagant claims of physiologists during the past decade!

"O, mighty Cæsar, art thou, then, so low?"

The pertinent question now seems to be: "How long will a too-confiding public submit to be gulled by such specious claims, —claims utterly discredited by facts?"

Note, for instance, Pasteur's Hydrophobia Cure, so recently on the top of the wave, and to-day generally laughed at, derided, even by the medical fraternity. Pasteur himself indirectly admits, in figures given a recent interviewer, that a larger percentage of patients have died, after being submitted to his inoculations, than are lost where no treatment whatever is resorted to (!). It would seem that this fact alone, coming, as it does, from Pasteur himself, might strike the scales from the eyes of credulity, and show this alleged "discovery" to be, what it really is, "a delusion and a snare."

Says Dr. Edward Berdoe:

"But, if Pasteur's system has proved itself so valuable, where are we to find the record of its services to mankind? At its home in France? Certainly not there. Not only has the annual mortality from rabies in man not diminished in France, it has increased and notably in the department of the Seine, where it reached in 1888 the enormous figure of nineteen. Says M. Peter, in the *Provincial Medical Journal*, for March, 1890: 'In order to mystify the evidence, they seek to astonish us by a veritable inebriation of figures in considering any rabid animal that bites, and as destined to become a victim of hydrophobia, every person bitten.' Search where we will for the practical benefits of M. Pasteur's discovery, the answer is uniform, 'Not there, not there, my child!' That is doubtless the reason why the scheme for a Pasteur Institute for London hangs fire."

And so I might quote from eminent authorities, *ad libitum*, if I chose.

Vivisection can be logically opposed on three leading grounds: (1) Its unparalleled cruelty; (2) its uselessness; (3) its demoralizing effect upon its devotees and upon humanity at large. First, regarding its cruelty.

Says a brilliant and thoroughly conscientious writer on the subject:

"French and Italian physiologists outrival each other in their relations of their wanton and exultant ingenuity in producing unnatural agony and watching its helpless struggles. That these men do not immediately give themselves the greater luxury of human victims is due only to their timidity before public opinion. I fail to see any logical refusal that can be made them, when they shall demand it."

I quote again—this time from the admirable preface by Philip G. Peabody, Esq., to his very large reprint of the English pamphlet, "Vivisection in America."

"Liberty in Vivisection, physiologists themselves, in Germany, France, and Italy, say, has produced abuses. 'In America,' says Dr. Leffingwell, 'it has led to the repetition, for demonstration, of Majendie's extreme barbarities—barbarities which have been condemned by every leading physiologist of England, in which country a careful study of mortality statistics shows that in no case has vivisection lessened the fatality of a single disease beyond what it was thirty-five years ago.'" (!)

The preceding quotation would seem to sufficiently accentuate both the cruelty and uselessness of Vivisection, although, if my readers' nerves could bear the terrible strain, I could fill column upon column of this publication with the vivisectors' accounts of their own experiments,—experiments so atrocious in their infliction of suffering, that, were but the one-hundredth part known, such a storm of public indignation would be aroused as would be unparalleled in the history of the world. Remember, I am not speaking as a sentimentalist; and here let me quote the language of no less a personage than Dr. Blackwood, the eminent Philadelphia physician. In a letter, a copy of which is now before me,—a letter addressed to a friend of the writer of this article and intended for publication—he (Dr. Blackwood) says:

"Absolutely useless as it [Vivisection] has been abundantly proved to be to all thinking and reasoning minds, it needs but the careful investigation of the medical profession, at large, to bring its members to the conclusion reached by the few who have given this important matter the consideration it deserves. . . . will be the means of starting public investigation, and, if it does this, the time will soon come when vivisectors will be relegated to the category of professional criminals, who deserve the heavy hand of the law to be laid on—and laid on the more because they should, from the pretensions they make, be the protectors, instead of the atrocious torturers, of animals who have not the power to protect themselves."

Dr. Edward Berdoe, of England, member of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, Licentiate of the Royal College of Edinburgh, member of the British Medical Association, etc., etc., thus writes:

"It [Vivisection] strikes a blow at our common humanity, and, if tolerated by society, will inevitably be fatal to its highest interests."

The great value of Dr. Berdoe's opinion on this subject, I presume even physiologists will not dare question, as Dr. Berdoe stands among the foremost of his profession in England; this latter fact could in no better way be attested than by the impunity with which he can assail that pet "hobby," Vivisection, so dear to the heart and vanity of "the rank and file" of the medical profession. The truth is, he is too powerful to be safely trifled with, for his pen can be, on occasion, as caustic and trenchant as his intellect is brilliant and far-reaching.

Could I be spared the space, I could quote anti-vivisectional sentiments from dozens of the most brilliant ornaments to the professions they represent. Among others, now before me, I observe the following names, all condemning the practice of

Vivisection: The late Henry Bergh, Esq., Mme. Adelina Patti, Mr. William Lloyd Garrison, Rev. Phillips Brooks, U. S. Senator Dawes of Massachusetts, Signor Tommaso Salvini, U.S. Senator Blair of New Hampshire; U. S. Senator Chandler of New Hampshire, Rev. Dr. Morgan Dix, U. S. Senator Dolph of Oregon, Rev. Dr. C. A. Bartol, Miss Frances Power Cobbe of England, "Ouida," Baron Ernst von Weber of Germany, Knight of the Royal Order of Saxony, etc., Miss Fanny Davenport, and Col. R. G. Ingersoll.

The medical fraternity would fain frighten off the lay public from the investigation of the morality or immorality of Vivisection; but just here I and all honest and earnest men and women must and will "call a halt."

I assert (and I am sure the truth of my assertion will appeal to the common sense of my readers) that it is not necessary to be a member of the medical profession in order to form a correct judgment of the value or uselessness of Vivisection. It is necessary that all which can be said on both sides should be read and digested; but that it is in any sense necessary to be a practical physiologist, or even a member of the medical profession, in order to form an intelligent judgment in the premises, is too preposterous to require a lengthened refutation here. Please remember that the records of these millions of Vivisections are accessible to every careful and painstaking student of the subject—records made, mainly, by the vivisectors themselves. When we find, as is the case, that one set of experiments is recorded, only to be *utterly discredited* by the next experimenter (he arriving, in most cases, at almost diametrically opposite conclusions),—when we find the greatest among the vivisectors utterly skeptical as to the value of the results arrived at by their *confreres* (often acknowledging at the end, as did the dying Claude Bernard, that they, themselves, pass away with empty hands),—do we not feel justified in looking askance at a mode of "research" fraught with a thousand times the horrors of the Calvinistic hell?

When we look further, and find the mortality statistics in no wise bear out the grandiloquent assertion that Vivisection has greatly reduced the percentage of deaths from certain prominent diseases during the past twenty-five years,—when we find such assertions absolutely erroneous, as is again the case,—is it not time to ask wherein Vivisection has proved this inestimable blessing to humanity we are so glibly told is the case? And I fortify this statement by a quotation from Dr. Leffingwell's very able article on Vivisection in *Lippincott's Magazine* for August, 1884. Dr. Leffingwell says:—

"If scientific evidence is worth anything, it points to the appalling conclusion that, notwithstanding all the researches of physiology [Vivisection], the chief forms of chronic disease exhibit to-day in England a greater fatality than thirty years ago."

Then follows an authentic table, the figures of which show the "average annual rate of mortality in England, from causes of death, per one million inhabitants." This table begins with A. D. 1850, and ends with A. D. 1879.

Dr. Leffingwell most logically adds :

"What are the facts here discernible of Bernard's experiments upon diabetes? Of Brown-Sequard's upon epilepsy and paralysis? Of Flint's and Pavly's on the liver? Of Ferrier's researches upon the functions of the brain?" [It may be observed that one of a recent writer's claims of the very valuable results arrived at through Vivisection (I refer to a writer I had in mind at the beginning of this article) are in this latter field.] "Let us appeal from the heated enthusiasm of the experimenter [or, in the above instance, that of the essayist] to the stern facts of the statistician. Why, so far from having obtained the least mastery over those malignant forces which seem forever to elude and baffle our art, *they are actually gaining upon us*; every one of these forms of disease [diseases which, although comparatively few in number, cause annually about one-half of all the deaths in England], is more fatal to-day in England than thirty years ago."

Here I will end my present quotations from Dr. Leffingwell. Let me now approach the subject more closely—let me examine critically the armor with which its defenders have panoplied themselves. Strange to relate, I do not feel abashed in the immediate presence of these "plumed knights," nor loth to measure swords with them. Can this be because I have seen so many bright vivisectional banners trailed in the dust—so many a blade snapped in twain that claimed to be of true Damascus steel? Perhaps! And, perhaps, too, because I know I speak the truth when I say Vivisection has been a curse to man and brute alike; it has caused an infinity of agony, the magnitude of which the greatest vivisectors admit is, like time and space, practically boundless; it has created and fostered the "lust for blood" which all deep students of the human mind know is not chimera (our critics' views to the contrary, notwithstanding); it has greatly retarded true medical and surgical progress; and here I pause in my argument to advance more distinctly upon my adversaries. Even Achilles was vulnerable in the heel; hence, let me not wholly despair of success. Here, then, I will test the value of their defences. The following words I quote, verbatim, from a recent article previously referred to :

"All that is known of medicine and surgery to-day is the direct result of experimentation."

Concerning the above statement, the writer thereof utterly misapprehends the truth (unwittingly, I believe). Not only is this statement incorrect, but almost the exact opposite is the fact. Not one discovery of great value has been made through Vivisection, in the domains either of Medicine or Surgery. This proposition can be supported by the highest expert testimony—much from the vivisectors themselves. Let us see if there is not what a physiologist might term a "suture" in my antagonists' armor just here; and, mark you, a wound given just here would be unpleasantly near the heart; for, if neither Medicine

nor Surgery has profited through Vivisection, what ground can be left as a foothold for its defenders to stand upon? Let us now consult the best authorities, and then my readers will be enabled to fairly judge between my opponents and myself upon this all-important point. First, medicine.

Listen to the opinion of Dr. Albert Leffingwell, whose articles on Vivisection, published in *Scribner's Monthly* and *Lippincott's Magazine*, commanded, at once, world-wide attention and respect. He says :

"Now I venture to assert that, during the last quarter of a century, infliction of intense torture upon unknown myriads of sentient, living creatures has not resulted in the discovery of a single remedy of acknowledged and generally accepted value in the cure of disease. This is not known to the general public, but it is a fact essential to any just decision regarding the expediency of unrestrained liberty of Vivisection."

And again Dr. Leffingwell says :

"I confess that, until recently, I shared the common impression regarding the utility of Vivisection in therapeutics [medicine]. It is a belief still widely prevalent in the medical profession. Nevertheless, is it not a mistake? The pretherapeutic results of nearly half a century [he might have as truly said, of all past time] of painful experiments—we seek them in vain."

And yet, again, he says :

"Has physiological experimentation [Vivisection] during the last quarter of a century contributed such marked improvements in therapeutic methods that we find certain and tangible evidence thereof in the diminishing fatality of any disease? Can one mention a single malady which thirty years ago resisted every remedial effort to which the more enlightened science of to-day can offer hopes of recovery? These seem to me perfectly legitimate and fair questions, and, unfortunately, in one respect, capable of a scientific reply. I suppose the opinion of the late Claude Bernard, of Paris, would be generally accepted as that of the highest scientific authority on the utility of Vivisection in 'practical medicine'; but he tells us it is hardly worth while to make the inquiry. 'Without doubt,' he confessed, 'our hands are empty,' to-day, although our mouths are full of legitimate promises for the future."

This would seem pretty conclusive, but let us look still further.

"Experiments on animals," says Dr. Thorowgood, in the *Medical Times and Gazette*, October 5, 1872, "already extensive and numerous, cannot be said to have advanced therapeutics much."

What says Sir William Ferguson, surgeon to the Queen, regarding those marvelous gains to surgery which a writer, previously referred to in this article, believes to have been made through Vivisection?

"In surgery," says Sir William Ferguson, "I am not aware of any of these experiments on the lower animals having led to the mitigation of pain, or to improvement as regards surgical details." [Reply to question 1049, in evidence given before the Royal Commission.]

What say my readers, was this writer correct in claiming that all of value in Medicine and Surgery has been gained through Vivisection, or have I proved the contrary to be the case? And yet, more expert testimony.

Says that most eminent physician, Dr. Edward Berdoe, of England, after enumerating, at great length, many of the most atrociously painful experiments of vivisectors :

"But, though you will [then] have been enabled to write numberless papers for scientific societies, and perhaps have won medals, scholarships, prizes, or even a Fellowship of the Royal Society—the plain, unvar-

nished fact is, that you have not advanced the practice of medicine or surgery by a single step! You have not learned the cure for a single malady which afflicts the human body. You have not reduced the length of time which a patient languishes in, say, typhoid fever, scarletina, or small-pox, by a single day. You have not learned how to cure gout, jaundice, cancer, or sciatica. We can do no more for these ailments than we could before your experiments were begun."—[Edward Berdoe, M.R.C.S., (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Edin.), in "The Healing Art and the Claims of Vivisection."]

A writer, in a recent article in favor of Vivisection, speaks of Professor Lawson Tait, F.R.C.S., LL.D., as an authority who has been entirely, or almost entirely, superseded during the last eight or nine years by the wonderful strides made (by vivisectors) in the domains of Surgery and Medicine, through Vivisection; just how wonderful these alleged strides, through Vivisection, have *really* been, I have shown my readers, at some considerable length. This essayist speaks of Professor Tait as an "eminent but somewhat irregular surgeon." Wherein this alleged irregularity consists, I am unaware, although perhaps based upon some technicality; in one way he is extremely "irregular," viz.: in that he has become undoubtedly the world's greatest ovariotomist, without finding it incumbent upon him to vivisect whole hecatombs of animals. I am certain that this critic has been misled in concluding Professor Lawson Tait is a "back number," and that he has been superseded, as an authority, by practical physiologists during the past few years. If such be the fact, it is indeed remarkable that such a suggestion has not, even ever so remotely, reached my ears until I read this critic's opinion; and I am in a position to know, were such the case. The fact is, I believe, that Professor Lawson Tait's famous *brochure* (the title of which, by the way, is mis-stated by this essayist, according to a copy of the pamphlet now before me) is, in the main, simply unanswerable.

Did space permit, nothing would please me better than to take up, one by one, the claims for Vivisection put forth by our critics; as it is, I must content myself with an examination of the more important ones. Let me point out one most glaring misapprehension regarding Professor Lawson Tait. It has been made to appear that Tait's great success in the department of abdominal surgery was achieved through his building upon the results arrived at by the more recent vivisections of physiologists. Let us first hear what says one who writes of Tait, and then read what Tait states regarding the sources from which he derived his practical knowledge of this subject. Says Tait's critic:—

"Not until Spencer Wells, of England, and Keith, of Scotland, by numberless vivisections, found a way to do it (referring to a branch of abdominal surgery), was it but rarely successful. They reduced the mortality to about twelve per cent. Following came others who made improvements by experiments and vivisection, until, finally, Tait of Birmingham, England, was able to show a record of over one hundred and thirty laparotomies without a single death."

Now listen to Prof. Tait, himself:—

"As soon as Keith's results were established (probably not in the remotest degree through the vivisections his critic credits him with performing), abdominal surgery advanced so rapidly that now, only six years after, there is

not a single organ in the abdomen which has not had numerous operations performed upon it successfully. I have had, as is well known, some share in this advance, and I say, without hesitation, that I have been led astray, again and again, by the published results of experiments on animals, and I have had to discard them entirely."

Comment upon these two opposing statements — the first by a party regarding Tait, the second by Tait regarding himself, — would appear superfluous, for "he who runs may read."

Speaking of wonderful (alleged) advances made through Vivisection in the locating of cerebral tumors, etc., a correspondent uses the following extravagant language, referring to "a great map of the brain" (which "map," it is superfluous to add, he believes to have been made possible through Vivisection, alone):

"Until he [Horsley] had, by following Ferrier's footsteps, perfected his great map of the brain [!], by which to-day all cerebral tumors and lesions are located [! — until Horsley's triumph [?] it was impossible, but now even the smallest tumor or lesion may be located exactly, and removed, with a possibility of restoring the sufferer to health, and his faculties again. . . . And it is confidently expected that, in a few years, many cases of epilepsy and insanity will be swiftly curable by surgery, — the diseased part cut away and health restored."

Now, anyone not the veriest tyro in his knowledge of the subject must, it would seem, know such statements as the foregoing are but the offspring of the wildest imagination. According to one critic's ideas, all a patient afflicted with a cerebral tumor need do is to consult one of these "wise men of the West," who, referring to this (non-existent) "great map of the brain," instantly and unerringly puts his finger (so to speak) upon the precise spot on this wonderful "map" indicated by his diagnosis of the patient's case. It is difficult to understand how anyone, with more than the merest smattering of knowledge concerning this matter, can seriously make such a statement as the above. Are not the vivisectors, themselves, at bitter odds regarding this very subject? Setting aside the well-known fact that experiments upon the brains of animals are of little or no value, so far as human beings are concerned, do we not find the leading vivisectors in this field of "research" extremely distrustful of the value of one another's conclusions reached through the vivisection of animals? Are not the tabulated results, as published by these craftsmen, generally so contradictory as to be of no practical value, even as barren physiological facts? In support of my assertions I invite the reader to peruse the writings of Flourens, Goltz, and Ferrier — three of the most prominent authorities on this subject. They might, indeed, be termed The Trinity in this department. Each has sacrificed hecatombs of animals on his own particular altar, and with what beneficial results, as far as brain-surgery is concerned? I answer, unhesitatingly, none! They have been able, by performing certain excruciatingly painful mutilations upon the wretched animals in their power to make them perform certain peculiar movements, one of which was described, with a revolting attempt at wit, as like the antics of a "jack-pudding" (or clown).

But that these multitudes of barbarous mutilations have ad-

vanced human brain-surgery, by one jot or tittle, is too absurd to merit serious refutation, as the history of brain-surgery abundantly proves. Indeed, who could for one instant imagine that these experiments of vivisectors upon the brains of living animals — experiments which have but served to immesh the experimenters in a web of inextricable difficulties and countless contradictions among themselves — have been of the least value in advancing human brain-surgery? The claim is utterly preposterous, and in no wise borne out by facts. If it be so, is it not passing strange that men so eminent in their professions as Dr. Edward Berdoe and Professor Lawson Tait appear quite unaware of it? The fact is, the great "brain-map," so glowingly referred to by the critic, exists but in his too vivid imagination.

But I must hasten to the close of this already long paper, for one or two points more I wish to touch upon, briefly. First, regarding the English Restrictive Act, referred to by a gentleman as "the foolish law passed by a weak parliament to appease the clamor of the sentimental anti-vivisectionists." I contend that the above gives a most unfair and erroneous view of the case. The bill, as originally "drafted," was a masterly one, and had it become a law in its first form, would have proved a powerful bar to the practice of Vivisection in Great Britain; unfortunately, however, both for the advancement of true science and for the cause of Humanity, it was so mutilated by its opponents before becoming a law, that it is but the shadow of what its framers intended it to be; however, it is the "entering wedge," and, as such, its value is very great. It was not drawn and put forward, as one critic believes, by "sentimental anti-vivisectionists;" on the contrary, its backers were persons of acknowledged intellect, who commanded, and still command, the respect of the British nation.

One last word, and I am done. Of the success of Dr. Robert Koch's inoculations for tuberculosis, one may well entertain the gravest doubts; even were all else clear (which is very far from being the case), it is in the highest degree uncertain whether the bacilli produce the disease, or the disease the bacilli; at present it looks as if Koch's cure for tuberculosis would ultimately gracefully retire from public scrutiny to the "Home for (physiological) Aged Couples," in company with its French congener, Pasteur's hydrophobia cure.

And now I have finished. If I have, happily, succeeded in placing our critics, to some extent, *hors de combat*, and in no enviable light in my readers' minds, the fault is their own, — not mine.

In all I have said I credit each with being honest, but apparently ignorant of this subject, and hence their cause was essentially weak. Handicapped by such tremendous odds as these, men of greater talent than they must have failed. Theirs is a "house builded upon the sands;" to the unpracticed eye it might look, perhaps, a substantial structure; and it was, for this very

reason, in the highest degree necessary that someone with that practical knowledge of the subject not possessed by the lay-public at large should point out clearly to them the absolute unsoundness of such apparently plausible argument. This, to the best of my humble ability, I have endeavored to do.

Vivisection is the blackest crime that the law of any land ever let go unpunished. The agony it inflicts upon helpless animals is so appalling that the knowledge of its atrocity has darkened forever, with its hideous, leprous shadow, the sunshine of many a generous and noble heart. It has destroyed, in many a breast, the belief in the existence of a just and loving God. It has, for more than one lofty spirit, turned to gall and wormwood the sparkling wine in Life's glowing chalice. It has aroused in many a manly and many a womanly breast a storm of righteous indignation; and it has evoked many a stern resolve to combat the hideous phantom while life and strength remain. Many have turned from its Gorgon head with speechless horror, lest, like Medusa's potent gaze, it, too, might freeze the palsied wretch, who looked on it, to stone. All honor be to the handful of gallant hearts (among whom I in nowise presume to rank myself,)—"sentimental anti-vivisectionists," one calls them—who, with dauntless courage, dare to face this hideous "Dweller of the Threshold," and gaze, unblanched, into those dreadful eyes! For that man and woman of exalted imagination and tender heart, who renounces sunshine, happiness, and, alas! too often, peace to enroll themselves beneath the spotless ensign of our Cause,—to fight, shoulder to shoulder, through weary, thankless years, for the dumb and the defenceless,—for them be the reverent, unspoken homage that the heart of their kind has ever paid to virtue, since Socrates drained the hemlock-bowl ere set of sun! Such language as that employed by one apologist for Vivisection cannot assail them. Like the turbulent little stream that hurls itself against the granite base of some great Alp, have, through all past time, the opponents of the philanthropist and the reformer of every field, wasted their strength in the vain attempt to outwit eternal Justice; (or, as in certain instances, to strive, through wicked-ignorance, to accomplish what others attempt through wickedness and malice.) But the heart of man is not wholly bad, and the great Alp of Justice will still rear, as now, its spotless crest above the sea of leaden clouds, to greet the fast-approaching dawn, when the little turbulent stream which frets against its granite foot, today, shall for centuries have been dried up within its shallow bed, and "the place which knew it once shall know it no more," forever!

ELLIOTT PRESTON,

Honorary Member of "The Victoria St. Society for the Protection of Animals from Vivisection," London; Life Member of "The Great German League Against the Scientific Torture of Animals," Dresden; Member of Ill. Branch Am. Anti-Vivi. Sec., etc., etc.

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